

City of Morro Bay

Morro Bay, CA 93442 (805) 772-6200



July 7, 2008

Tam M. Doduc, Chair State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

RE:

The Klamath River and Its Tributaries

7/22/08 Hearing on PacifiCorp's Clean Water Permit



Located over 500 miles from the mouth of the Klamath River, the City of Morro Bay is a fishing community. Our working waterfront includes both commercial and recreational salmon vessels, each of which is a small business that generates income for our community.

Although Morro Bay is located at the extreme southern range of California's salmon stocks, many of our fishermen depend on this resource for their livelihoods. Historically, when salmon were not available locally, our fishermen traveled to other areas of the coast in pursuit of their trade. However, they always returned to Morro Bay, and the economic benefits from their endeavors were brought home.

Today, our fishermen and their related support businesses are struggling to survive. The City is currently subsidizing a fish-buying facility, the commercial fishermen's ice machine and our one remaining marine fuel dock, in an attempt to preserve some of this infrastructure.

For over 35 years, our fishing fleet has been restricted due to concerns over Klamath salmon. Please take whatever actions are possible to protect and restore the Klamath River Basin and its related tributaries as soon as possible, including denying PacifiCorp's application to re-license the Klamath dams. The future of our small coastal community, and others like it, is at stake.

Thank you for your consideration.

Janice Peters

Mayor

Governor Schwarzenegger cc:

Senator Able Maldonado

Representative Sam Blakeslee

Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization

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